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№ 1
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XANADU
PHELIA'S TALE

The PENUMBRA

WRITE TO: ECLIPSE COMICS - P.O. BOX 1099 - FORESTVILLE - CALIFORNIA - 95436

ON THE RACKS

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  A young queen falls in love with the captain of her guard—defying long-standing tradition.
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- **THE COMPLETE JOHNNY COMET**
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  Toth's two *Zorro* albums are now in hardback with a slipcase, and signed by Toth himself!

LEST WE GET SWELL-HEADED: During the past two months i've been been interviewed by more newspaper and broadcast reporters than in the preceding eighteen months. And therein lies a tale i'd like to share with you, a tale about the public acceptance of comics. But first, some background:

Current reportorial interest centers around three recent Eclipse releases: *Farewell to the Gipper* by Dan O'Neill; *The Iran-Contra Scandal Trading Cards* by Paul Brancato and Salim Yaqub; and *Brought to Light* by Alan Moore, Bill Sienkiewicz, Joyce Brabner, Thomas Yeates, and Paul Mavrides. For those who've missed these items, i should explain that the O'Neill book is a 160 page b&w collection of editorial cartoons satirizing Ronald Reagan's administration; the *Trading Cards* consist of 36 paintings depicting key scandal players, each backed with factual text; and the Moore, Sienkiewicz *et al* volume is an 80 page full-colour non-fiction graphic album about the role of CIA covert operations in U.S. foreign policy, and the constitutional violations this may entail.

Now, one would expect reporters to treat the O'Neill book simply as a new release in the long history of such cartoon collections. And so they have. The volume has met with favourable notice in several newspapers, including a two-page colour spread in the San Francisco Sunday *Examiner-Chronicle*. More to the point, not a single interviewer has asked me if i think editorial cartoons are a "legitimate" form of political commentary. Political cartoons have such a respectable history, no matter who the target may be, that *Farewell to the Gipper* is easily understood by reporters everywhere.

The *Trading Cards* are a bit more of a novelty. They look like baseball cards, at least to those reporters who have never heard of non-sports cards, but although the artwork tends toward cruel satire, only one reporter has asked, "Do you think the Iran-Contra scandal is suitable material for gum cards, or is this just trivializing a serious issue?" With no precedents to compare the cards to (yes, i know there *are* precedents, among them the recently re-released *It Can't Happen Here* set, and last year's *Terrorists* set, but none of the straight media reporters seem to have heard of them), the reporters appear to judge the cards on their own merit, and they find them educational, entertaining, cute, or what-have-you, as they see fit. *Harper's Magazine* is doing a piece on them, for Pete's sake. You can't get more mainstream than that!

But the graphic album...ah, there's the lesson to be learned. You see, over half the interviewers i've spoken with about *Brought to Light* have asked me whether non-fiction material can be rendered in the form of "comic books" without "trivializing" the story. In vain do i recount the long history of educational comics, the unfair stigmatization of comics as literature fit only for juveniles, the average age of our readers, the precedents for this sort of thing (including, of course, *Maus*). Nope, it's a "comic book" and it's suspect. "Is it campy?" they ask. "Will there be super heroes in the book?" they ask. "Don't you think it'll be too complicated for the kids to understand?" they ask.

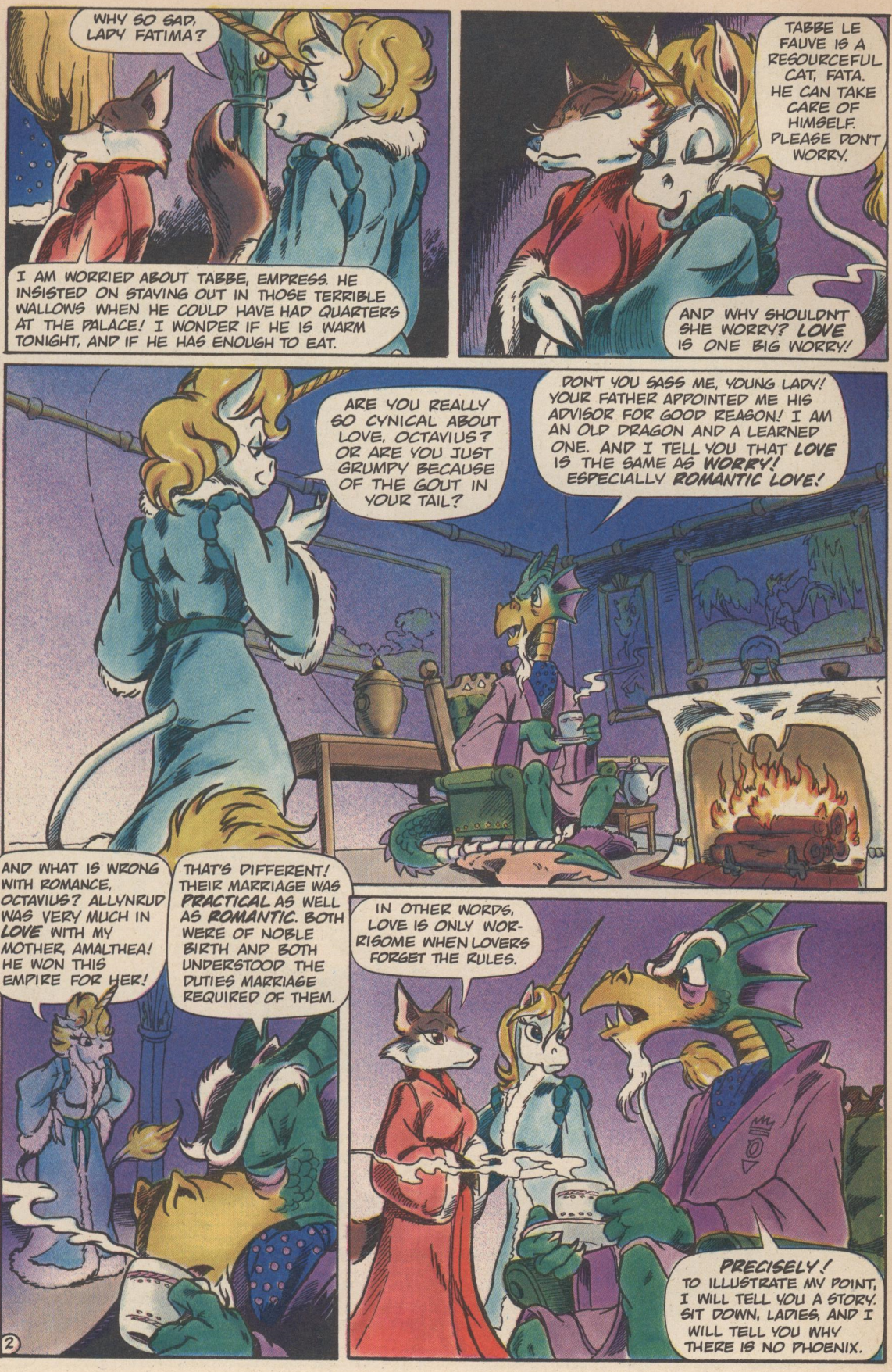
No, i don't blame the reporters for asking these dopey questions. They're only playing back the years of comics-bating they themselves were subjected to. But wouldn't it be nice if some day comics could command the respect that editorial cartoons do, or better yet, achieve the legitimacy that baseball cards (*baseball cards!*) have earned?

I hope that with the publication of more books like *Brought to Light*, that day may come upon us soon.

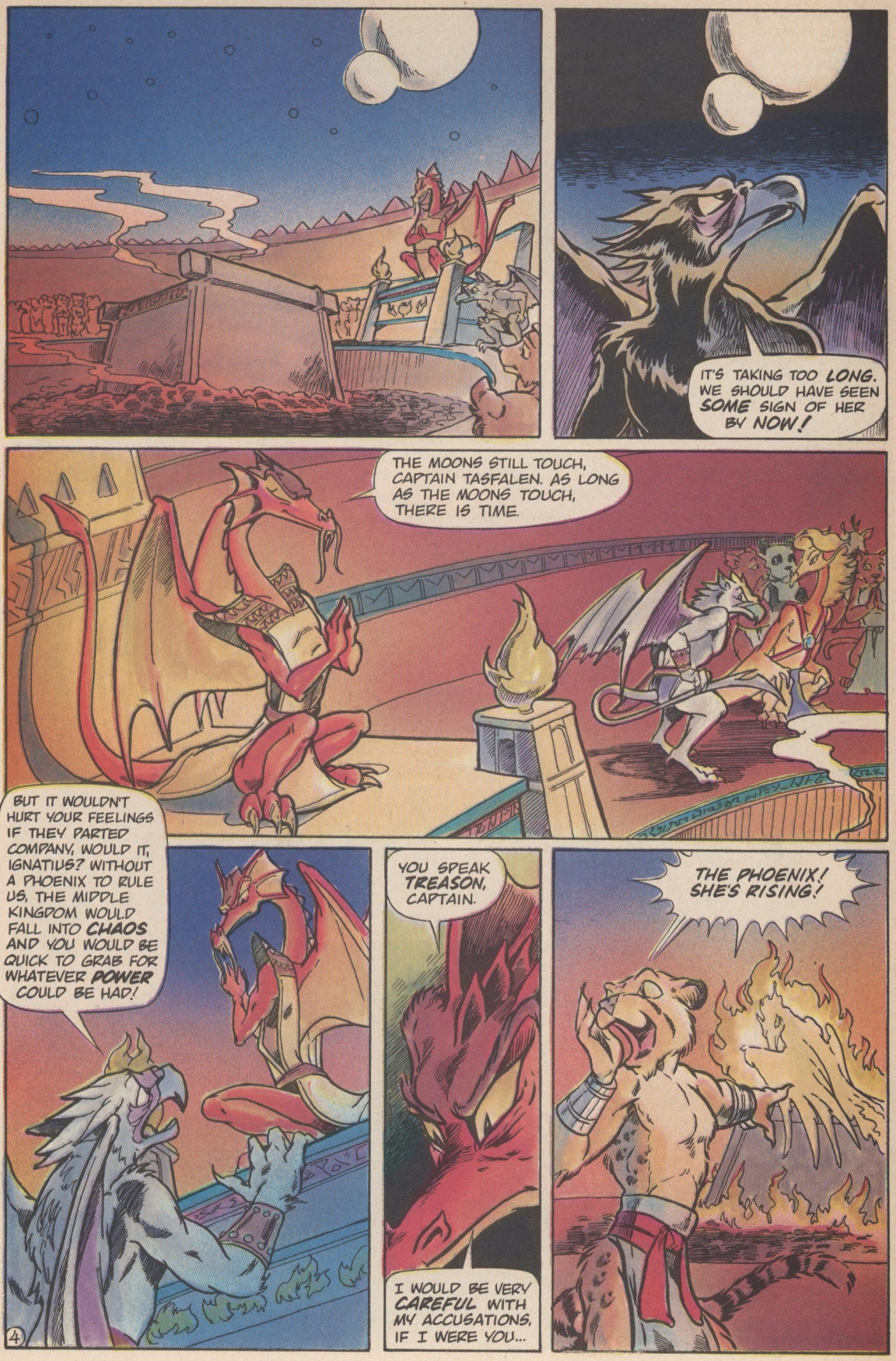
catherine yronwode

XANADU™ COLOR SPECIAL no. 1, December 1988. Published by Eclipse Comics, P. O. Box 1099, Forestville, Calif. 95436. One-shot. Letitia Glozer, Editor. Catherine Yronwode, Editor-in-Chief. Dean Mullaney, Publisher. Xanadu TM and © 1988 Vicky Wyman and LX, Ltd. All other material © 1988 Eclipse Enterprises, Inc. All rights reserved. For licensing information contact Dean Mullaney.

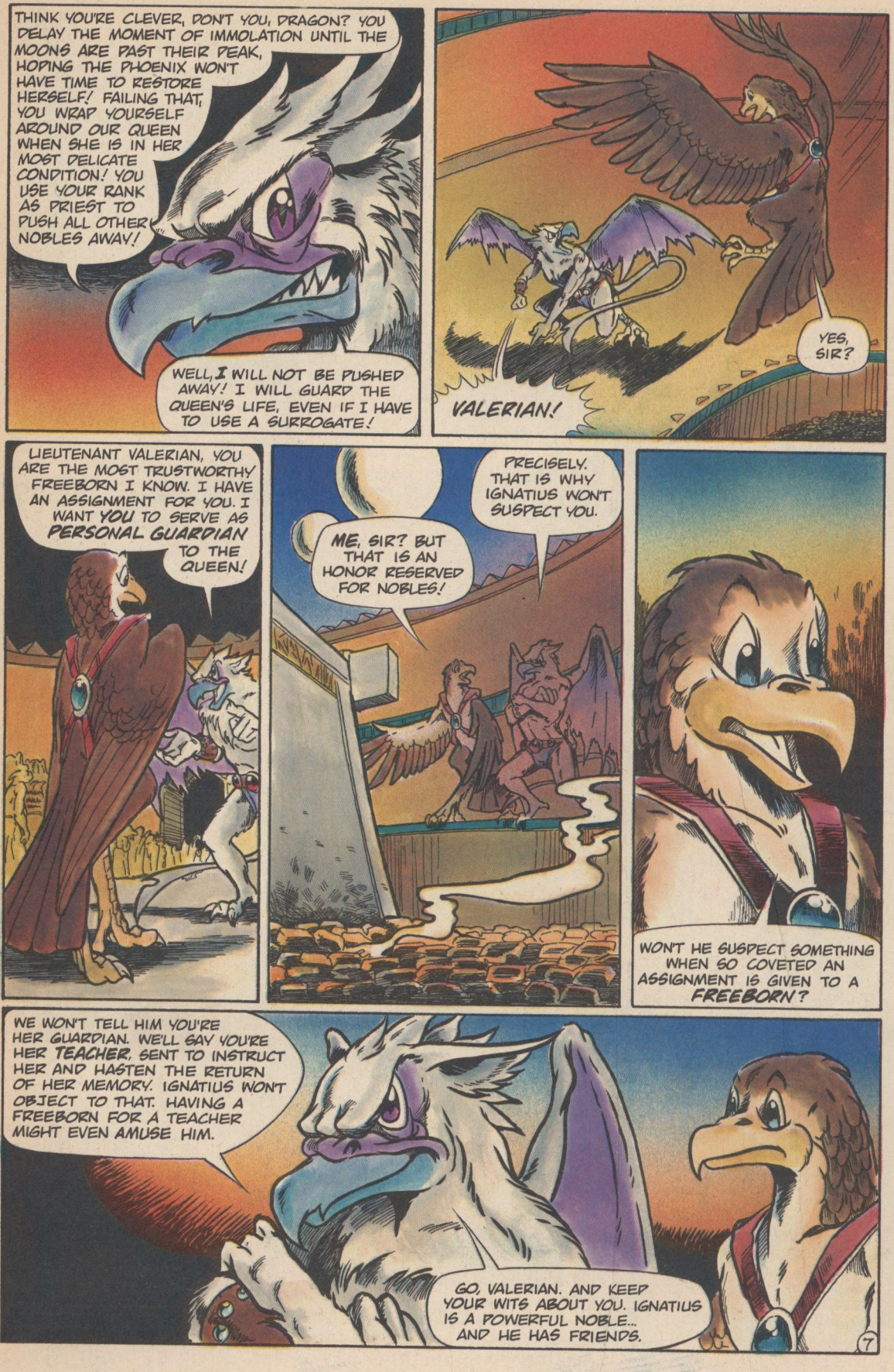
Plot: **Steve Gallacci** *Script & Art:* **Vicky Wyman**
Letterer: **Wayne Truman** *Colourist:* **Sam Parsons**
Editor: **Letitia Glozer** *Conceptual Editor:* **Lex Nakashima**

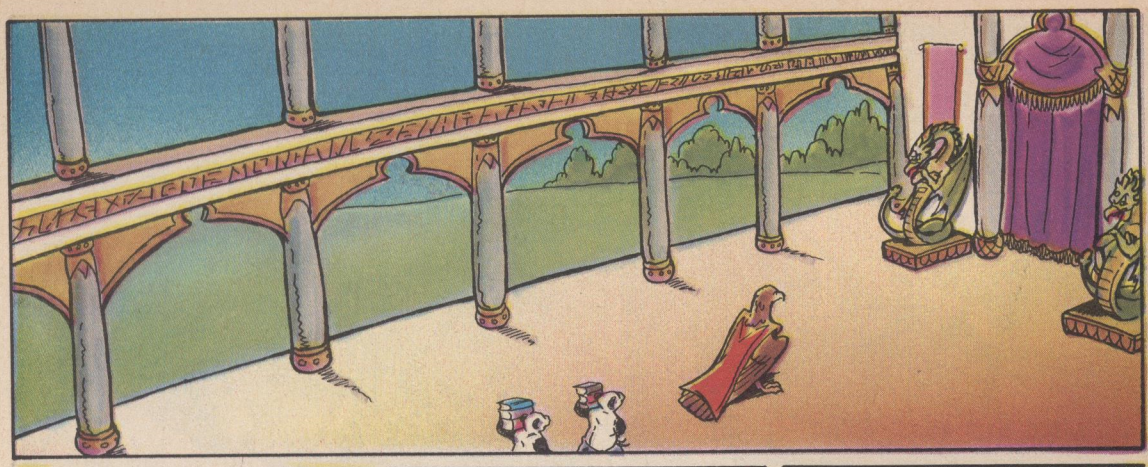

WHY SO SAD, LADY FATIMA?
I AM WORRIED ABOUT TABBE, EMPRESS. HE INSISTED ON STAYING OUT IN THOSE TERRIBLE WALLOWS WHEN HE COULD HAVE HAD QUARTERS AT THE PALACE! I WONDER IF HE IS WARM TONIGHT, AND IF HE HAS ENOUGH TO EAT.
TABBE LE FAUVE IS A RESOURCEFUL CAT, FATA. HE CAN TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF. PLEASE DON'T WORRY.
AND WHY SHOULDN'T SHE WORRY? LOVE IS ONE BIG WORRY!
ARE YOU REALLY SO CYNICAL ABOUT LOVE, OCTAVIUS? OR ARE YOU JUST GRUMPY BECAUSE OF THE GOUT IN YOUR TAIL?
DON'T YOU SASS ME, YOUNG LADY! YOUR FATHER APPOINTED ME HIS ADVISOR FOR GOOD REASON! I AM AN OLD DRAGON AND A LEARNED ONE. AND I TELL YOU THAT LOVE IS THE SAME AS WORRY! ESPECIALLY ROMANTIC LOVE!
AND WHAT IS WRONG WITH ROMANCE, OCTAVIUS? ALLYNRUD WAS VERY MUCH IN LOVE WITH MY MOTHER, AMALTHEA! HE WON THIS EMPIRE FOR HER!
THAT'S DIFFERENT! THEIR MARRIAGE WAS PRACTICAL AS WELL AS ROMANTIC. BOTH WERE OF NOBLE BIRTH AND BOTH UNDERSTOOD THE DUTIES MARRIAGE REQUIRED OF THEM.
IN OTHER WORDS, LOVE IS ONLY WORRISOME WHEN LOVERS FORGET THE RULES.
PRECISELY! TO ILLUSTRATE MY POINT, I WILL TELL YOU A STORY. SIT DOWN, LADIES, AND I WILL TELL YOU WHY THERE IS NO PHOENIX.
2

"ONCE UPON A TIME IN THE VERY DISTANT PAST, A PHOENIX NAMED PHELIA RULED WHAT WAS THEN CALLED THE MIDDLE KINGDOM. SO VAST WAS THIS EMPIRE, AND SO GREAT WAS THE PHOENIX'S POWER, THE GOLDEN REALM WAS ONLY A MINOR FIEFDOM AND WHAT WE CALL XANADU WAS ONLY A SMALL PORTION OF HER LANDS.
"QUEEN PHELIA WAS IMMORTAL AND, LIKE ALL CLASSIC IMMORTALS, SHE HAD A BASIC FLAW. HER BODY COULD ONLY ENDURE A LIMITED NUMBER OF CENTURIES.
"IN ORDER TO RENEW HER STRENGTH, SHE WOULD ASSEMBLE A GREAT PYRE AND, WHEN THE MOONS ALIGNED, SHE WOULD IMMOLATE HERSELF. NOTHING WOULD BE LEFT OF HER BUT ASHES.
"YET OUT OF THOSE ASHES, PHELIA WOULD RISE FRESH AND YOUNG, READY TO RESUME HER RULE...
3


IT'S TAKING TOO LONG. WE SHOULD HAVE SEEN SOME SIGN OF HER BY NOW!
THE MOONS STILL TOUCH, CAPTAIN TASFALEN. AS LONG AS THE MOONS TOUCH, THERE IS TIME.
BUT IT WOULDN'T HURT YOUR FEELINGS IF THEY PARTED COMPANY, WOULD IT, IGNATIUS? WITHOUT A PHOENIX TO RULE US, THE MIDDLE KINGDOM WOULD FALL INTO CHAOS AND YOU WOULD BE QUICK TO GRAB FOR WHATEVER POWER COULD BE HAD!
YOU SPEAK TREASON, CAPTAIN.
I WOULD BE VERY CAREFUL WITH MY ACCUSATIONS, IF I WERE YOU...
THE PHOENIX! SHE'S RISING!
4

QUEEN PHELIA! WELCOME BACK!
DO I KNOW YOU?
I AM TASFALEN, CAPTAIN OF YOUR GUARD.
AND I AM LORD IGNATIUS, YOUR CHIEF ADVISOR. DON'T BE ALARMED IF YOU DON'T RECOGNIZE US. YOU'RE STILL WEAK FROM YOUR REBIRTH AND YOUR MEMORY HAS TEMPORARILY FAILED YOU. YOU'LL RECOVER QUICKLY, NEVER FEAR.
ARE YOU WELL, MAJESTY?
I'M...I'M VERY TIRED...
OF COURSE YOU ARE. YOU'VE HAD A VERY TRYING NIGHT. IF YOU'LL COME WITH ME, I'LL ESCORT YOU TO YOUR CHAMBERS.
THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO ACCOMPANY US, CAPTAIN. I KNOW THE WAY. WHY DON'T YOU STAY HERE, AND SEE TO THE CLEANING UP...?


THINK YOU'RE CLEVER, DON'T YOU, DRAGON? YOU DELAY THE MOMENT OF IMMOLATION UNTIL THE MOONS ARE PAST THEIR PEAK, HOPING THE PHOENIX WON'T HAVE TIME TO RESTORE HERSELF! FAILING THAT, YOU WRAP YOURSELF AROUND OUR QUEEN WHEN SHE IS IN HER MOST DELICATE CONDITION! YOU USE YOUR RANK AS PRIEST TO PUSH ALL OTHER NOBLES AWAY!
WELL, I WILL NOT BE PUSHED AWAY! I WILL GUARD THE QUEEN'S LIFE, EVEN IF I HAVE TO USE A SURROGATE!
VALERIAN!
YES, SIR?
LIEUTENANT VALERIAN, YOU ARE THE MOST TRUSTWORTHY FREEBORN I KNOW. I HAVE AN ASSIGNMENT FOR YOU. I WANT YOU TO SERVE AS PERSONAL GUARDIAN TO THE QUEEN!
ME, SIR? BUT THAT IS AN HONOR RESERVED FOR NOBLES!
PRECISELY. THAT IS WHY IGNATIUS WON'T SUSPECT YOU.
WON'T HE SUSPECT SOMETHING WHEN SO COVETED AN ASSIGNMENT IS GIVEN TO A FREEBORN?
WE WON'T TELL HIM YOU'RE HER GUARDIAN. WE'LL SAY YOU'RE HER TEACHER, SENT TO INSTRUCT HER AND HASTEN THE RETURN OF HER MEMORY. IGNATIUS WON'T OBJECT TO THAT. HAVING A FREEBORN FOR A TEACHER MIGHT EVEN AMUSE HIM.
GO, VALERIAN. AND KEEP YOUR WITS ABOUT YOU. IGNATIUS IS A POWERFUL NOBLE... AND HE HAS FRIENDS.



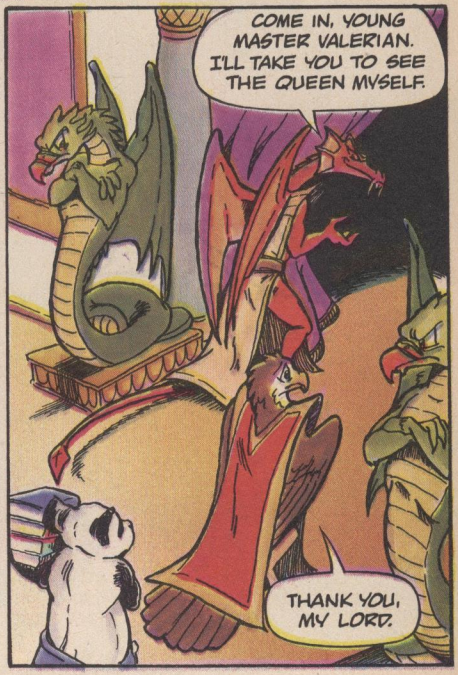
SSSTOP, FREEBORN! COME NO FURTHER. TELL USSS WHO YOU ARE.
I AM VALERIAN. I AM HERE TO INSTRUCT QUEEN PHELIA.

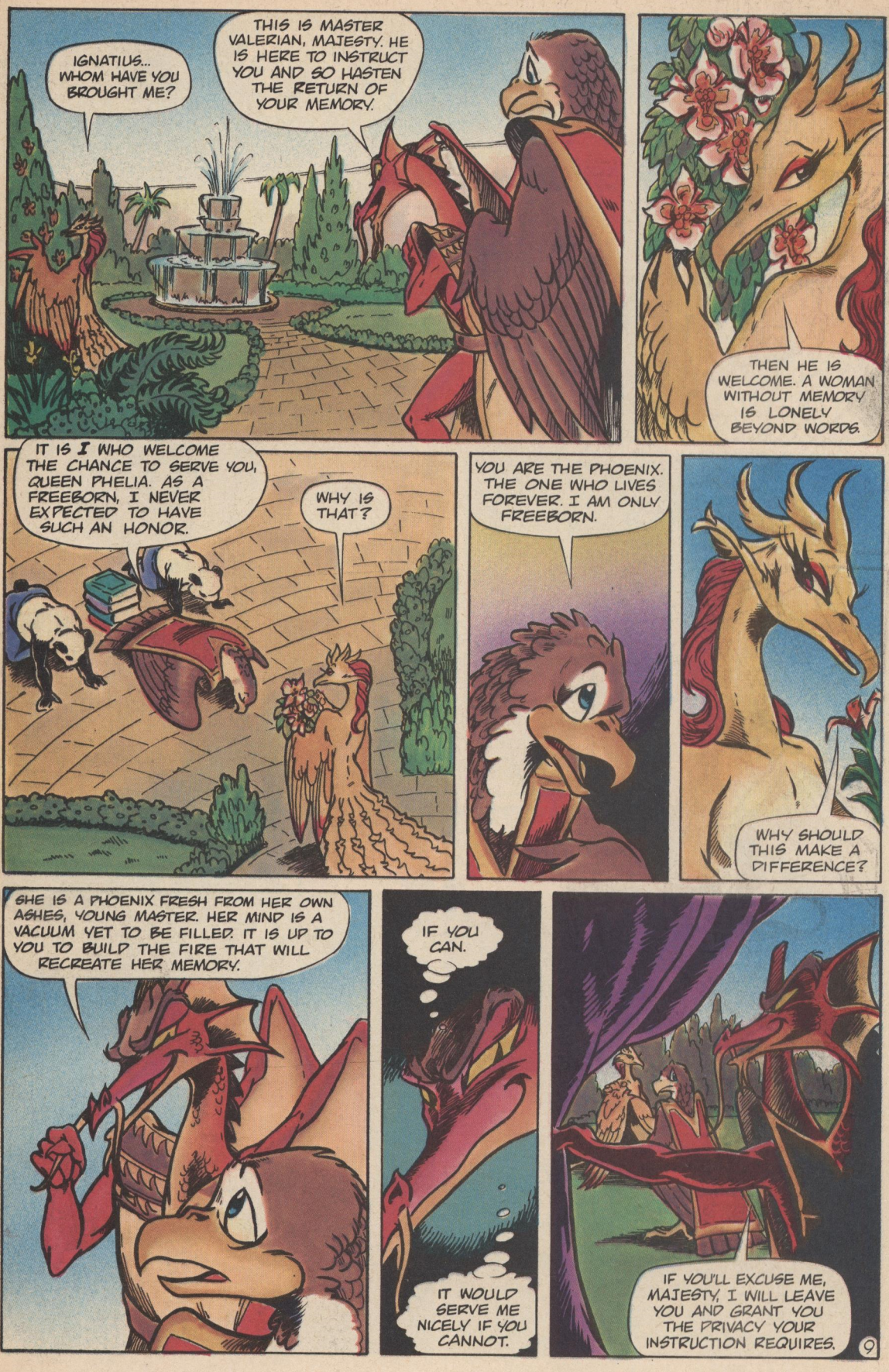
A HAWK FOR A SSSCHOOLMASSSTER? I THOUGHT ALL HAWKSSS WERE WARRIORSSS. YOU MUSSST NOT BE MUCH OF A HAWK.
MY FAMILY WAS GIVEN TO MORE SCHOLARLY PURSUITS.

WHO ARE YOU?

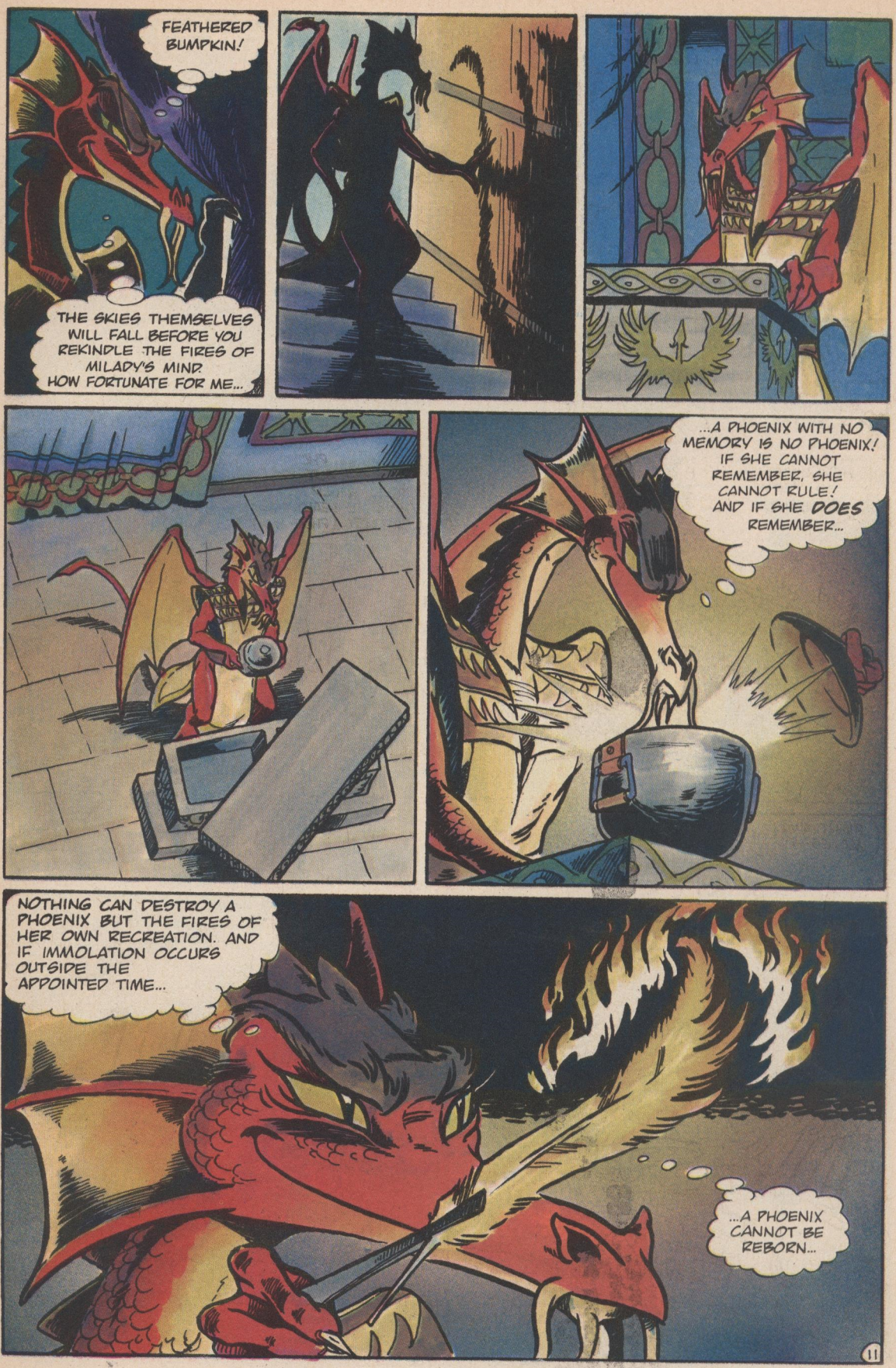
I AM VALERIAN...
HE'SSS HERE TO INSSSTRUCT THE QUEEN, LORD IGNATIUSSS.
HISSS FAMILY WASSS GIVEN TO MORE SSSCHOLARLY PURSSSUITSSS.

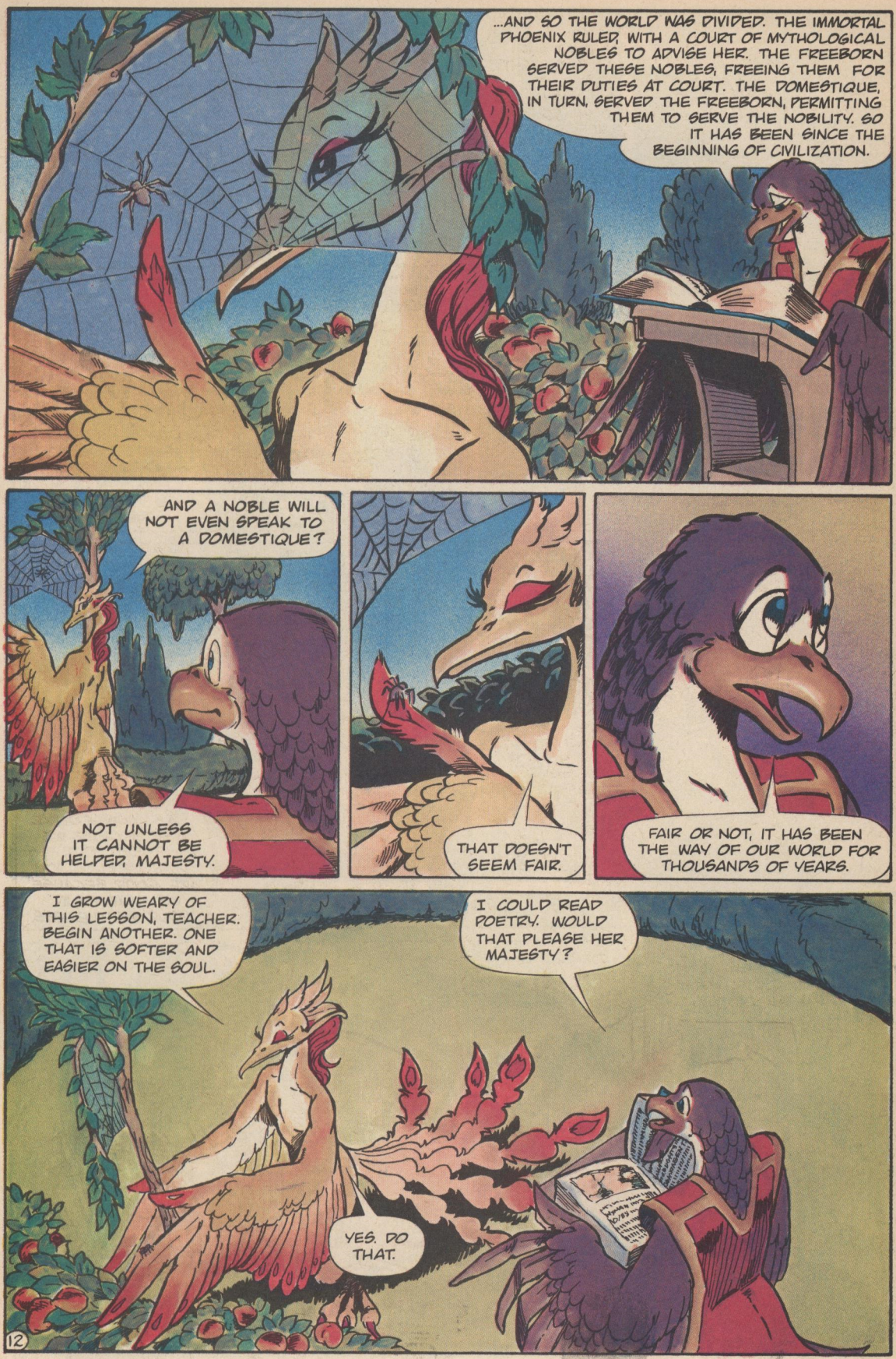
A FREEBORN FOR A TEACHER...?


COME IN, YOUNG MASTER VALERIAN. I'LL TAKE YOU TO SEE THE QUEEN MYSELF.
THANK YOU, MY LORD.


IGNATIUS... WHOM HAVE YOU BROUGHT ME?
THIS IS MASTER VALERIAN, MAJESTY. HE IS HERE TO INSTRUCT YOU AND SO HASTEN THE RETURN OF YOUR MEMORY.
THEN HE IS WELCOME. A WOMAN WITHOUT MEMORY IS LONELY BEYOND WORDS.
IT IS I WHO WELCOME THE CHANCE TO SERVE YOU, QUEEN PHELIA. AS A FREEBORN, I NEVER EXPECTED TO HAVE SUCH AN HONOR.
WHY IS THAT?
YOU ARE THE PHOENIX. THE ONE WHO LIVES FOREVER. I AM ONLY FREEBORN.
WHY SHOULD THIS MAKE A DIFFERENCE?
SHE IS A PHOENIX FRESH FROM HER OWN ASHES, YOUNG MASTER. HER MIND IS A VACUUM YET TO BE FILLED. IT IS UP TO YOU TO BUILD THE FIRE THAT WILL RECREATE HER MEMORY.
IF YOU CAN.
IT WOULD SERVE ME NICELY IF YOU CANNOT.
IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, MAJESTY, I WILL LEAVE YOU AND GRANT YOU THE PRIVACY YOUR INSTRUCTION REQUIRES.

WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT?
FORGIVE ME, MAJESTY! I DID NOT MEAN TO BE RUDE!
I DON'T THINK YOU RUDE. BUT I DID NOTICE YOU STARING AT ME. MIGHT I ASK WHY?
HER MAJESTY IS VERY BEAUTIFUL.
OH...
IGNATIUS SAYS A PHOENIX CANNOT HELP BUT BE BEAUTIFUL. WOULD YOU STILL THINK ME BEAUTIFUL IF I WERE NOT A PHOENIX?
I SUPPOSE SO, MAJESTY. BUT IF YOU WERE NOT THE PHOENIX, WHO WOULD YOU BE?
IT DOESN'T MATTER. WE'D BEST BEGIN INSTRUCTION, TEACHER. AN EMPTY SOUL IS A LONELY PLACE.
RIGHT AWAY, MAJES--!
AWK!!
FORGIVE ME, MAJESTY!

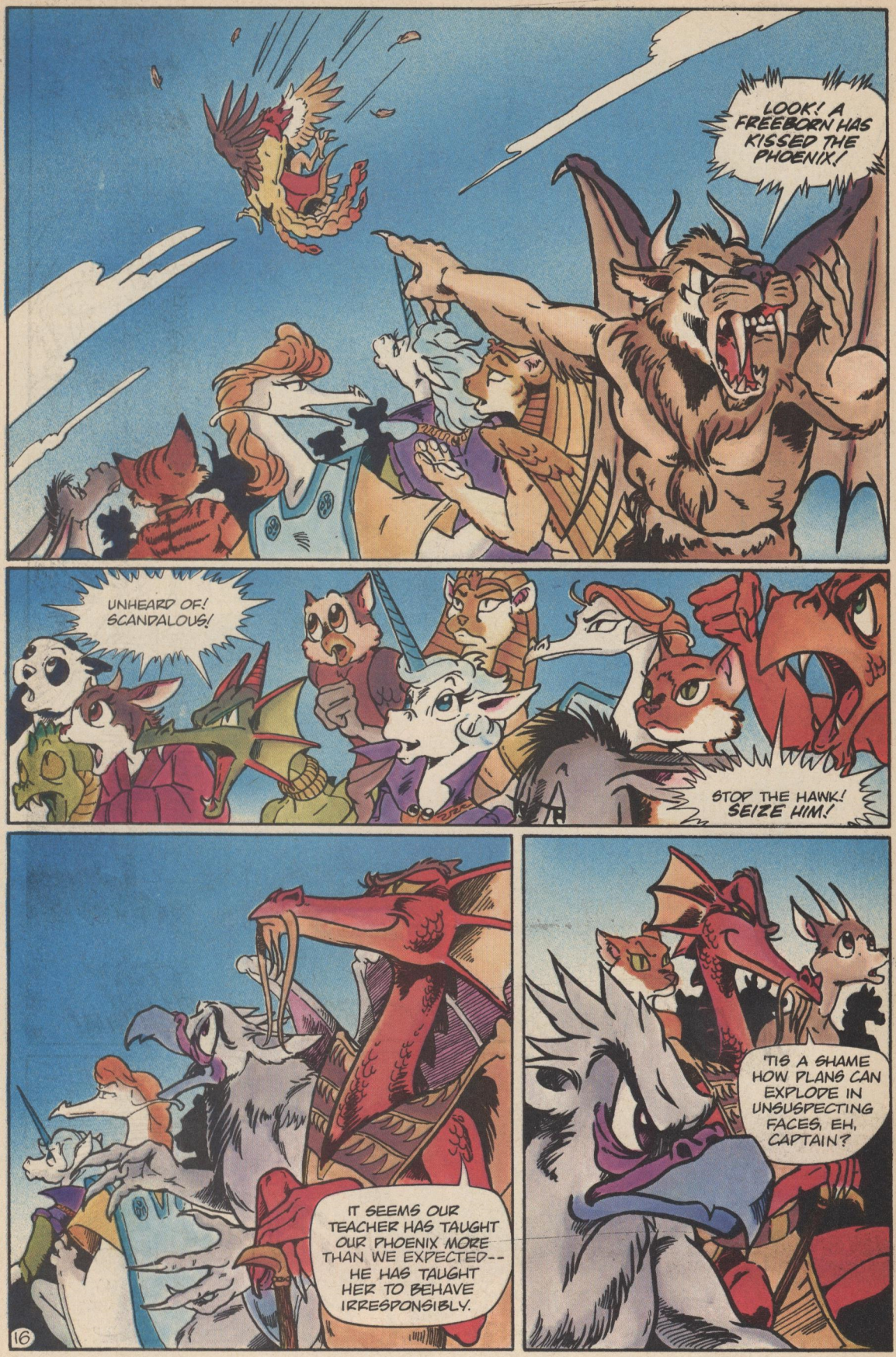

FEATHERED BUMPKIN!
THE SKIES THEMSELVES WILL FALL BEFORE YOU REKINDLE THE FIRES OF MILADY'S MIND. HOW FORTUNATE FOR ME...
...A PHOENIX WITH NO MEMORY IS NO PHOENIX! IF SHE CANNOT REMEMBER, SHE CANNOT RULE! AND IF SHE DOES REMEMBER...
NOTHING CAN DESTROY A PHOENIX BUT THE FIRES OF HER OWN RECREATION. AND IF IMMOLATION OCCURS OUTSIDE THE APPOINTED TIME...
...A PHOENIX CANNOT BE REBORN...

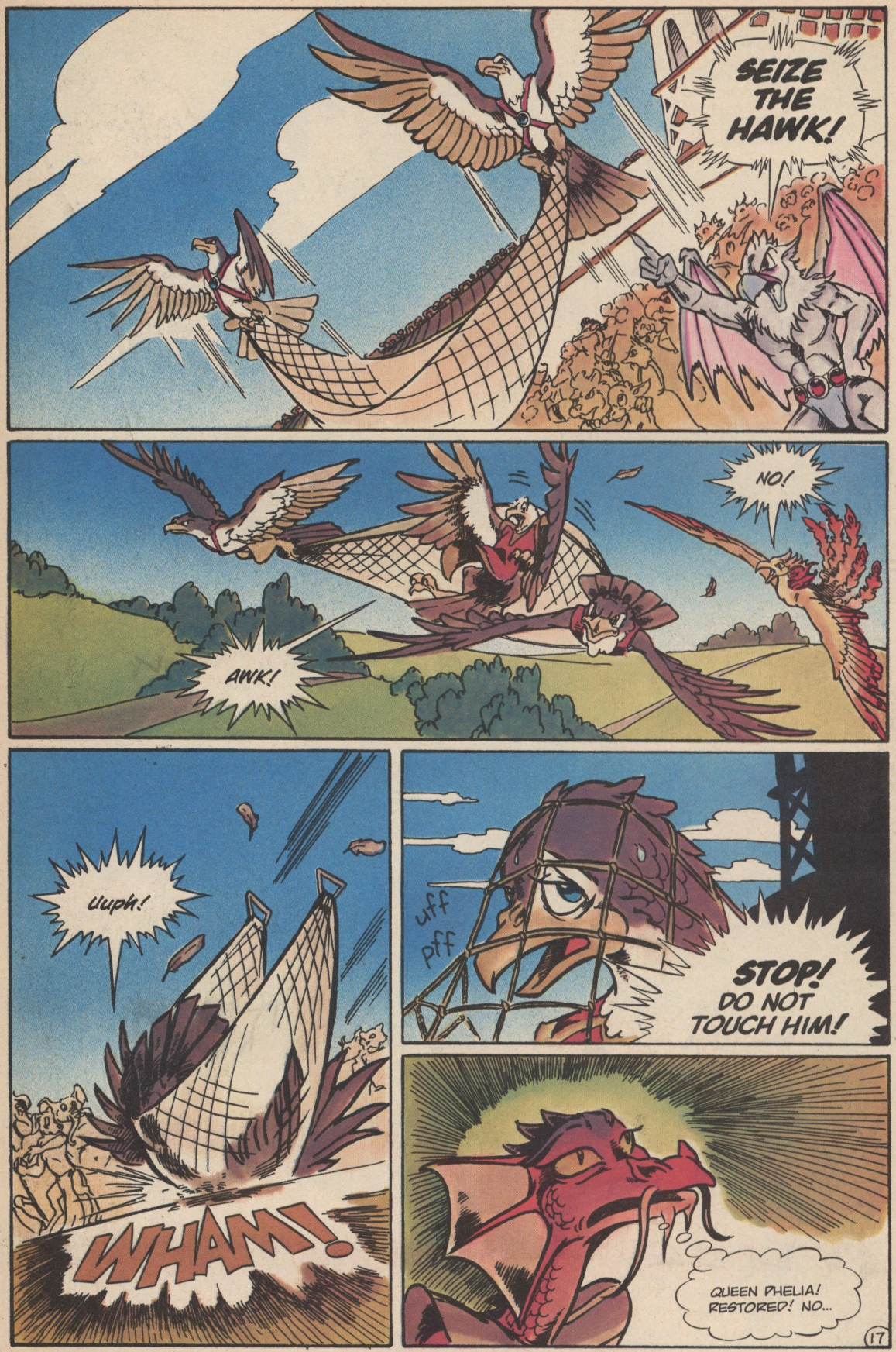

...AND SO THE WORLD WAS DIVIDED. THE IMMORTAL PHOENIX RULED, WITH A COURT OF MYTHOLOGICAL NOBLES TO ADVISE HER. THE FREEBORN SERVED THESE NOBLES, FREEING THEM FOR THEIR DUTIES AT COURT. THE DOMESTIQUE, IN TURN, SERVED THE FREEBORN, PERMITTING THEM TO SERVE THE NOBILITY. SO IT HAS BEEN SINCE THE BEGINNING OF CIVILIZATION.
AND A NOBLE WILL NOT EVEN SPEAK TO A DOMESTIQUE?
NOT UNLESS IT CANNOT BE HELPED, MAJESTY.
THAT DOESN'T SEEM FAIR.
FAIR OR NOT, IT HAS BEEN THE WAY OF OUR WORLD FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS.
I GROW WEARY OF THIS LESSON, TEACHER. BEGIN ANOTHER. ONE THAT IS SOFTER AND EASIER ON THE SOUL.
I COULD READ POETRY. WOULD THAT PLEASE HER MAJESTY?
YES. DO THAT.

"PHOENIX, SINGULAR AND SOLITARY LIGHT; IN PERFECT ISOLATION STAND, OUR BEACON AND OUR STAR..."
STOP!
IS SOMETHING WRONG, MY QUEEN?
HAS THERE NEVER BEEN ANOTHER PHOENIX? AM I THE ONLY ONE?
YES, M'LADY.
THEN HOW CAN ANYONE SAY THAT I AM BEAUTIFUL? OR GOOD? OR WISE? THERE IS NO OTHER PHOENIX TO COMPARE ME TO.
WE KNOW YOU ARE WISE BECAUSE WE HAVE SEEN YOUR WISDOM. WE KNOW YOU ARE GOOD BECAUSE WE HAVE FELT YOUR GENTLENESS.
WE KNOW YOU ARE BEAUTIFUL BECAUSE WHAT IS WISE AND GOOD CANNOT HELP BUT BE BEAUTIFUL.
DO YOU THINK ME BEAUTIFUL?
OF COURSE.

HOW COULD YOU LET THIS HAPPEN?
HOW COULD YOU LET HER BECOME INFATUATED WITH YOU?!
IT WAS NOT MY INTENTION, CAPTAIN.
GOOD INTENTIONS WON'T FEED THE MANTICORE! YOU KNOW HOW VULNERABLE SHE IS! IF SHE FALLS IN LOVE WITH YOU, IT WILL CLOUD HER MIND AND INHIBIT THE RETURN OF HER MEMORY! THIS IS JUST WHAT IGNATIUS WANTS!
IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN, SIR.
DAMN RIGHT IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN! I'M RELIEVING YOU OF THAT DUTY! YOU ARE NO LONGER THE QUEEN'S PERSONAL GUARDIAN!
FORGIVE ME, CAPTAIN TASFALEN, BUT IF I AM DISMISSED, WON'T IT MAKE LORD IGNATIUS SUSPICIOUS? ISN'T HE APT TO LOOK TWICE AS HARD AT ANY OTHER REPRESENTATIVE YOU MIGHT SEND?
BESIDES, I DON'T THINK QUEEN PHELIA IS IN LOVE WITH ME. I JUST THINK SHE'S TERRIBLY LONELY. I WOULD BE TOO, IF I WERE THE ONLY ONE OF MY KIND.
I WILL NOT REPEAT THIS INDISCRETION. I WILL SERVE HER MAJESTY AS GUARDIAN AND TEACHER. NOTHING MORE.
ALL RIGHT, DAMN YOU! YOU DO HAVE A POINT. YOUR GUARDIANSHIP WILL CONTINUE...
THANK YOU, CAPTAIN. DON'T WORRY. I'LL BE VERY CAREFUL FROM NOW ON.
LIEUTENANT, YOU HAD BETTER BE!

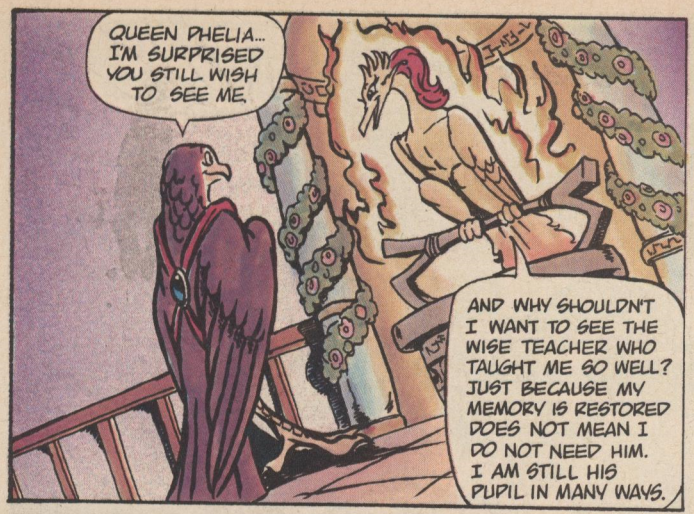
GOOD MORNING, MAJESTY. ARE YOU READY FOR YOUR LESSONS?
NO LESSONS TODAY, DEAR TEACHER! THE SUN IS WARM AND THE AIR IS CLEAR. IT IS A GOOD DAY FOR FLYING.
QUEEN PHELIA, NO! YOU MUSTN'T LEAVE THE PALACE WITHOUT AN ESCORT!
WHY NOT ?
BECAUSE THERE ARE RULES..
RULES TO GOVERN CLOUDS AND THE WARMTH OF THE SUN ON ONE'S WINGS? I SHALL HAVE TO REPEAL SUCH RULES!

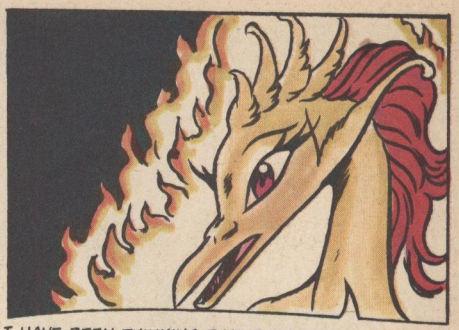

LOOK! A FREEBORN HAS KISSED THE PHOENIX!
UNHEARD OF! SCANDALOUS!
STOP THE HAWK! SEIZE HIM!
IT SEEMS OUR TEACHER HAS TAUGHT OUR PHOENIX MORE THAN WE EXPECTED-- HE HAS TAUGHT HER TO BEHAVE IRRESPONSIBLY.
'TIS A SHAME HOW PLANS CAN EXPLODE IN UNSUSPECTING FACES, EH, CAPTAIN?


SEIZE THE HAWK!
NO!
AWK!
uuph!
WHAM!
uff
pff
STOP! DO NOT TOUCH HIM!
QUEEN PHELIA! RESTORED! NO...

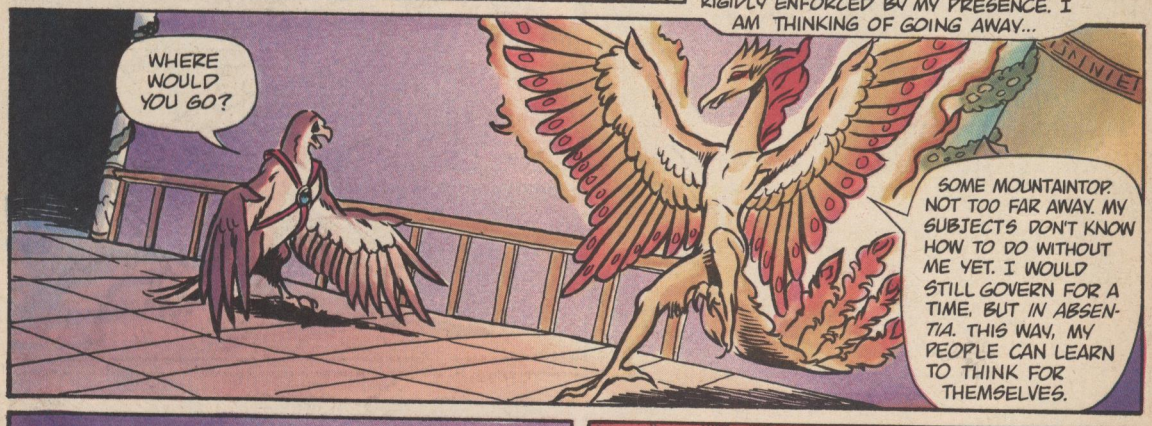
I, PHELIA MAJORIS, THE ONE WHO LIVES FOREVER, COMMAND YOU! RELEASE THE HAWK! NOW!
THIS FREEBORN HAS TAUGHT ME MORE IN THE LAST FEW DAYS THAN MY NOBLES HAVE TAUGHT ME IN CENTURIES! I FIND THAT THE MIDDLE KINGDOM IS CORRUPT AND THE COMPLACENCY OF EONS HAS MADE IT SO! THERE IS NO WISDOM WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING, AND NO UNDERSTANDING WITHOUT LOVE! NOT JUST NOBLE FOR NOBLE OR FREEBORN FOR FREEBORN, BUT FOR EACH OTHER!
THIS IS WHAT THE HAWK HAS TAUGHT ME. PLEASE, LET HIM GO...
18

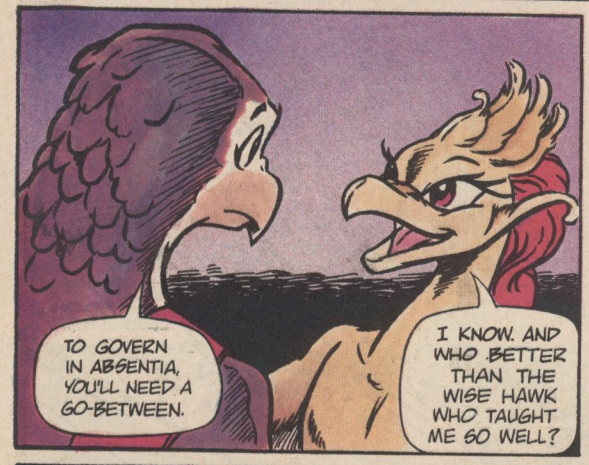
QUEEN PHELIA'S MEMORY HAS RETURNED, AND WITH ITS RETURN DO MY HOPES OF POWER FADE. SO IT IS TIME THE PHOENIX FADED, TOO. A VICTIM OF HER OWN FIRES!
NO ONE WILL CALL IT MURDER. 'TIS IMPOSSIBLE TO KILL A PHOENIX. THEY WILL SAY SHE BECAME UNBALANCED AND SACRIFICED HERSELF TO LOVE!
AND THEY WILL BLAME THE HAWK.
THE PHOENIX HAS RULED FOREVER. WHEN SHE DIES, CHAOS WILL ERUPT! OUT OF THIS CHAOS, I WILL CARVE AN EMPIRE!..

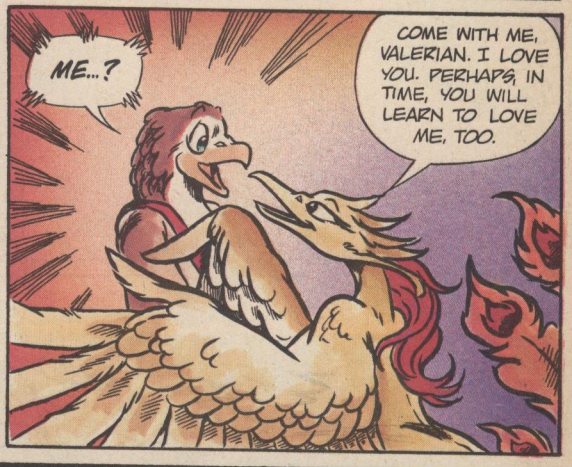




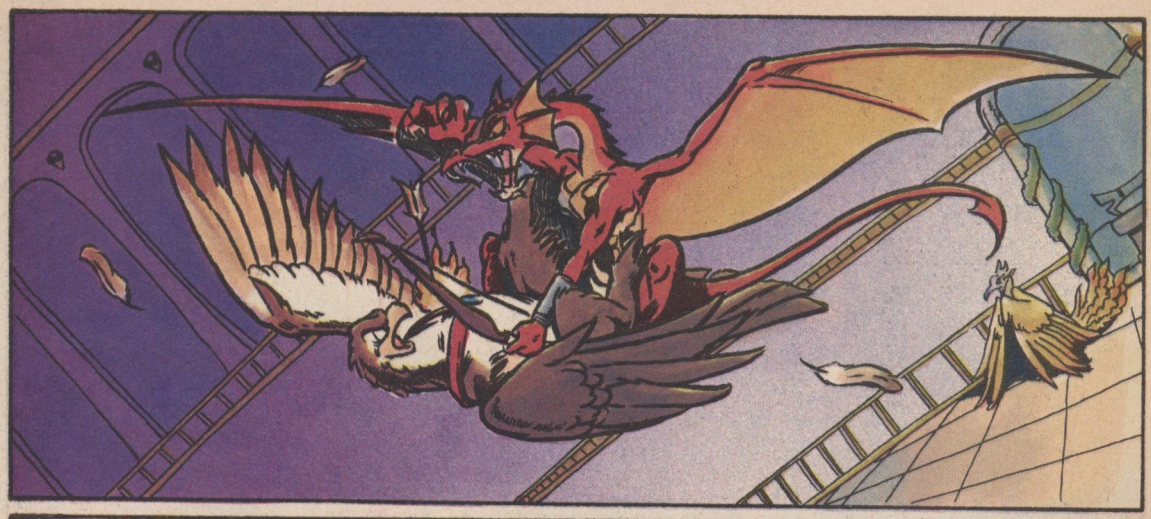
I HAVE BEEN THINKING THAT I MAY WELL HAVE DONE THIS WORLD A DISSERVICE. BY CONTINUING THIS RULE FOR MILLENNIA, I HAVE MAINTAINED PEACE AND CONTINUITY. I HAVE ALSO FOSTERED STAGNATION. IF SOMETHING HAPPENED TO ME, THERE WOULD BE ANARCHY BECAUSE MY SUBJECTS HAVE NEVER LEARNED TO THINK FOR THEMSELVES. THEN THERE IS THE CASTE SYSTEM, WHICH IS RIGIDLY ENFORCED BY MY PRESENCE. I AM THINKING OF GOING AWAY...

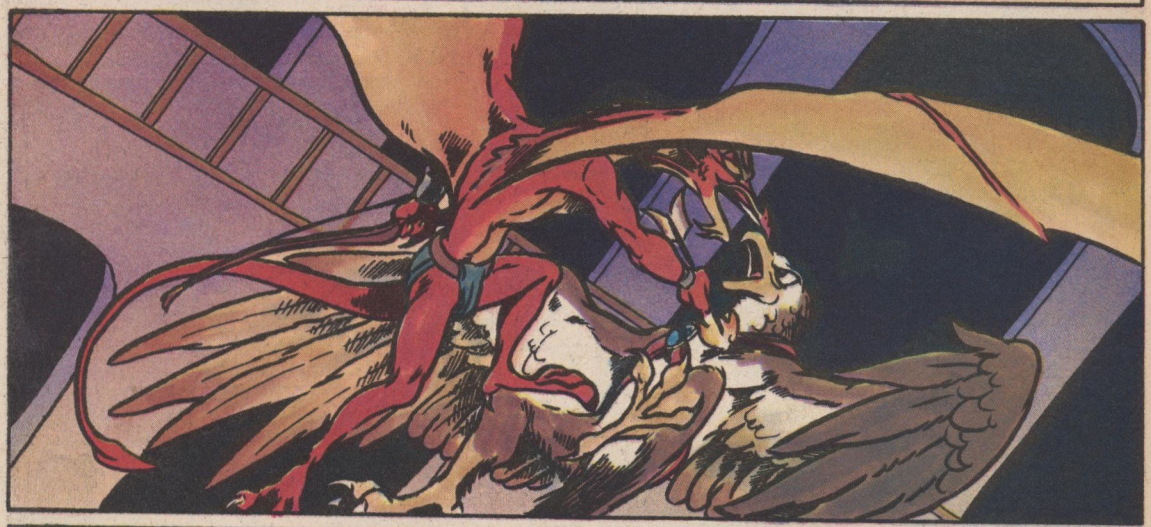


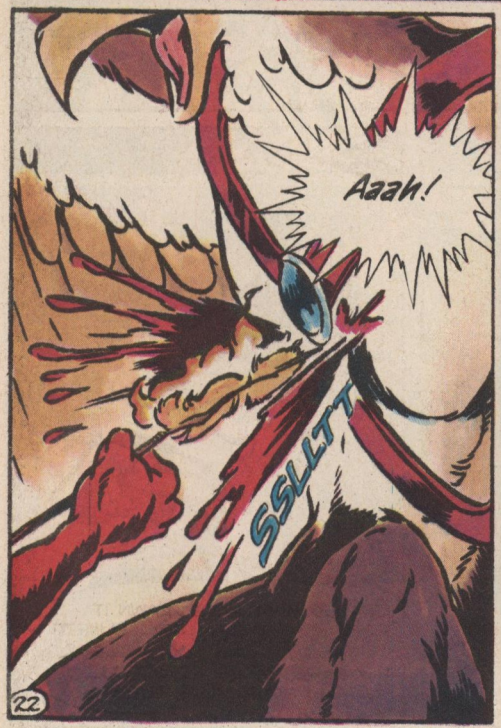




STOP! ASSASSIN!
VALERIAN!
TWANG
Uuuh!
TRAITOR!

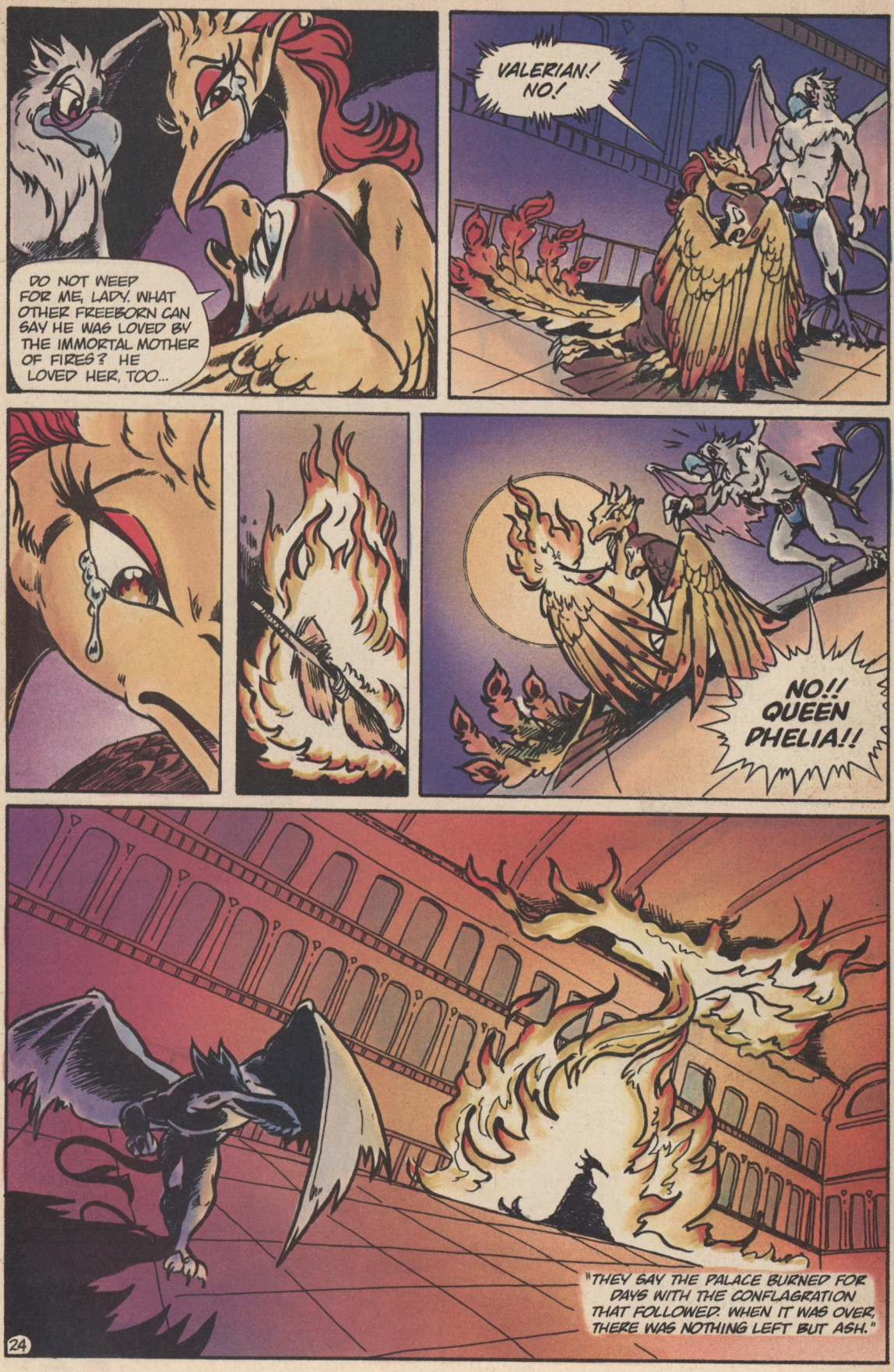


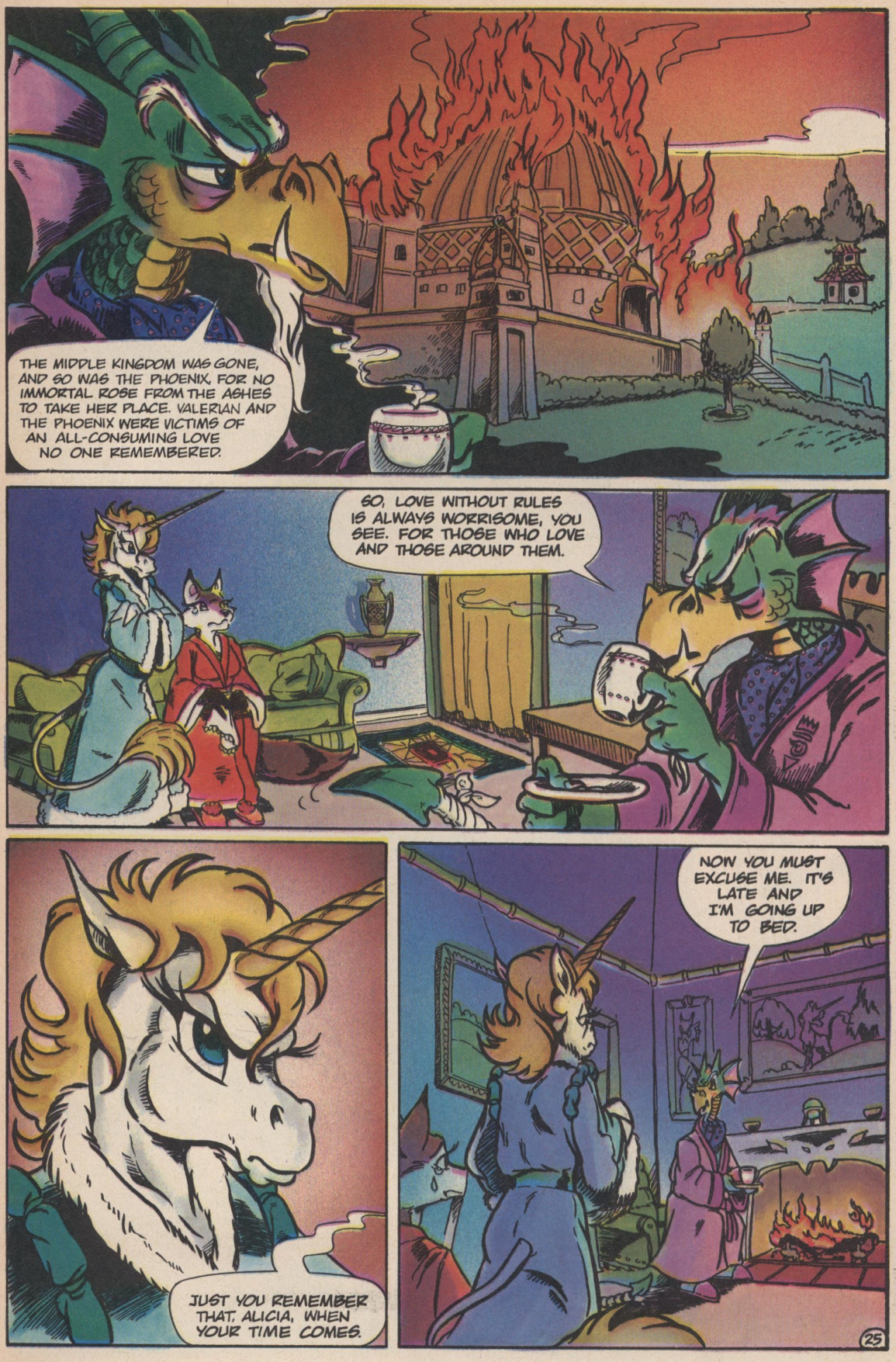


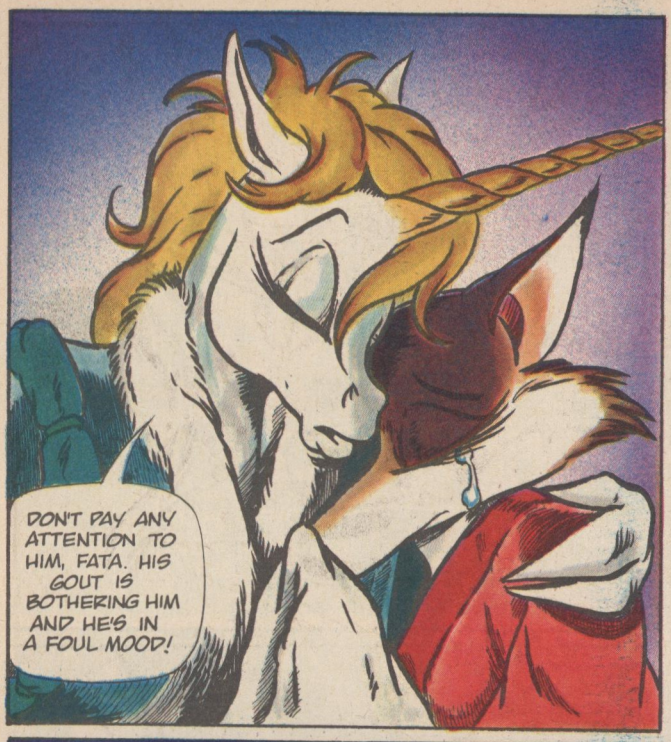

Aaah!
SSLLTT

HOW TENACIOUSLY THESE FREEBORN CLING TO LIFE! VERY WELL. CLING JUST A LITTLE LONGER AND WATCH YOUR WORLD END!

AND SO DOES YOUR WORLD END, IGNATIUS. WITH THE SAME QUICK THRUST YOU WOULD HAVE GIVEN MINE!
VALERIAN!
OH, VALERIAN...
NO, LADY! THE FEATHER'S TOUCH IS FATAL FOR YOU! THIS FEATHER BURNS WITH THE FIRES OF YOUR IMMOLATION! TOUCH IT AND YOU TOO WILL BURN!
IGNATIUS MUST HAVE DRAWN IT FROM YOUR PYRE WHEN YOU WERE BURNING...NO ONE WOULD QUESTION HIS RIGHT TO BE NEAR YOU... HE WAS YOUR HIGH PRIEST...


DO NOT WEEP FOR ME, LADY. WHAT OTHER FREEBORN CAN SAY HE WAS LOVED BY THE IMMORTAL MOTHER OF FIRES? HE LOVED HER, TOO...
VALERIAN! NO!
NO!! QUEEN PHELIA!!
"THEY SAY THE PALACE BURNED FOR DAYS WITH THE CONFLAGRATION THAT FOLLOWED. WHEN IT WAS OVER, THERE WAS NOTHING LEFT BUT ASH."


THE MIDDLE KINGDOM WAS GONE, AND SO WAS THE PHOENIX, FOR NO IMMORTAL ROSE FROM THE ASHES TO TAKE HER PLACE. VALERIAN AND THE PHOENIX WERE VICTIMS OF AN ALL-CONSUMING LOVE NO ONE REMEMBERED.
SO, LOVE WITHOUT RULES IS ALWAYS WORRISOME, YOU SEE. FOR THOSE WHO LOVE AND THOSE AROUND THEM.
JUST YOU REMEMBER THAT, ALICIA, WHEN YOUR TIME COMES.
NOW YOU MUST EXCUSE ME. IT'S LATE AND I'M GOING UP TO BED.


DON'T PAY ANY ATTENTION TO HIM, FATA. HIS GOUT IS BOTHERING HIM AND HE'S IN A FOUL MOOD!

HE ALSO DIDN'T FINISH THE STORY. TWO BEINGS DID RISE FROM THE ASHES OF THE PHOENIX AND WHILE THEY WEREN'T IMMORTAL, THEY WERE NOBLE. THEY WERE THE FIRST TWO FIREBIRDS.

AND WHILE IT WAS TRUE THEY HAD NO MEMORIES OF THEIR PAST LIVES, THEY DID HAVE THEIR LOVE FOR EACH OTHER. THEY BECAME MATES AND LIVED IN BLISS FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS. ALL FIREBIRDS WHICH ARE OR WERE ARE THEIR CHILDREN...

...SO LOVE BREEDS ITS OWN IMMORTALITY. ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, THAT'S THE SORT OF IMMORTALITY I'D RATHER HAVE...

The End

Mai
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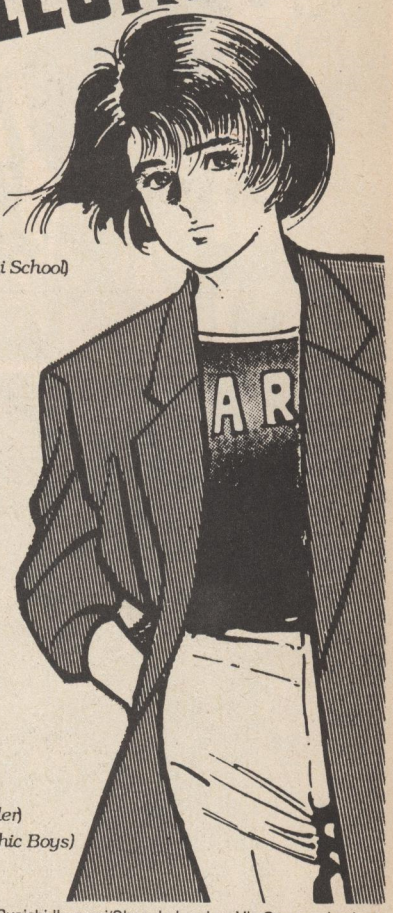

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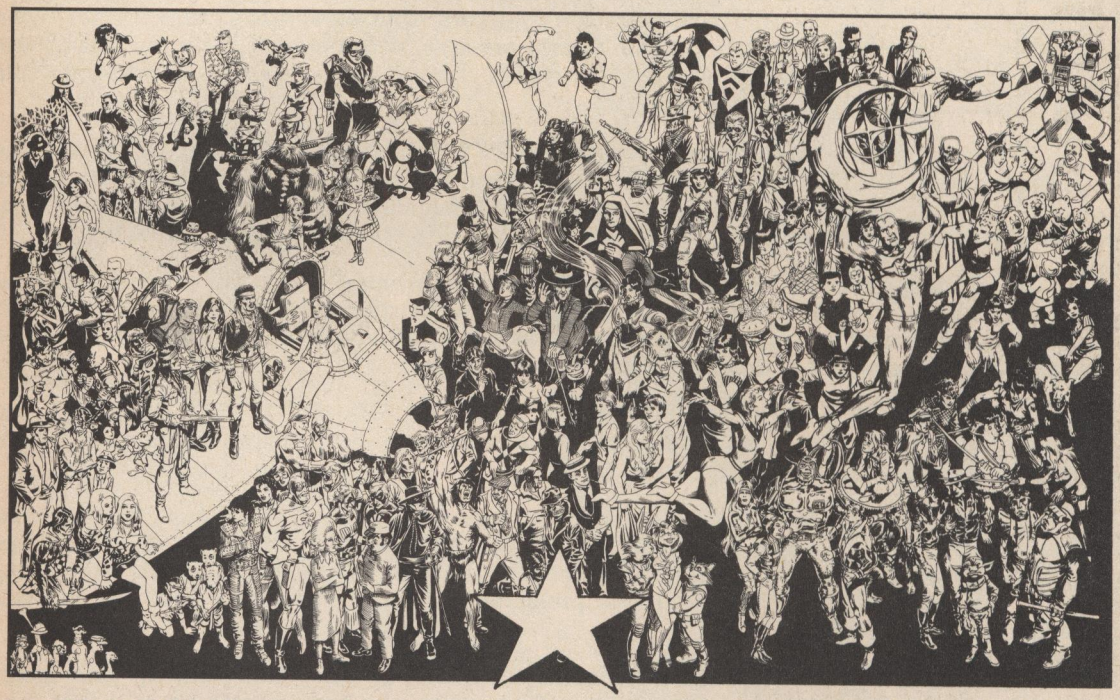

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These are frightening stories, and you might feel helpless to prevent or reverse the destruction you are being told about almost daily. Even if you feel strong enough or have time enough to devote to solving the problems, your options are limited. You aren't a super-hero—you won't be able to go to the Amazon and single-handedly stop loggers from destroying rain forests.

What should you do? Should you join a "save the whales" campaign, boycott pesticide-laden table grapes, or write a letter to the President? What good can one person do, anyway? Maybe it would be easier to turn off those news shows and buy another comic book, so you can see a real hero beat the crap out of those evil aliens from outer space.

WE THINK YOU **CAN** DO SOMETHING. IT WON'T BE BIG, BUT IT WILL BE **EASY!** You won't have to give up any time, march around with a picket sign, boycott anything you don't want to boycott, or even stop reading comics to do it!

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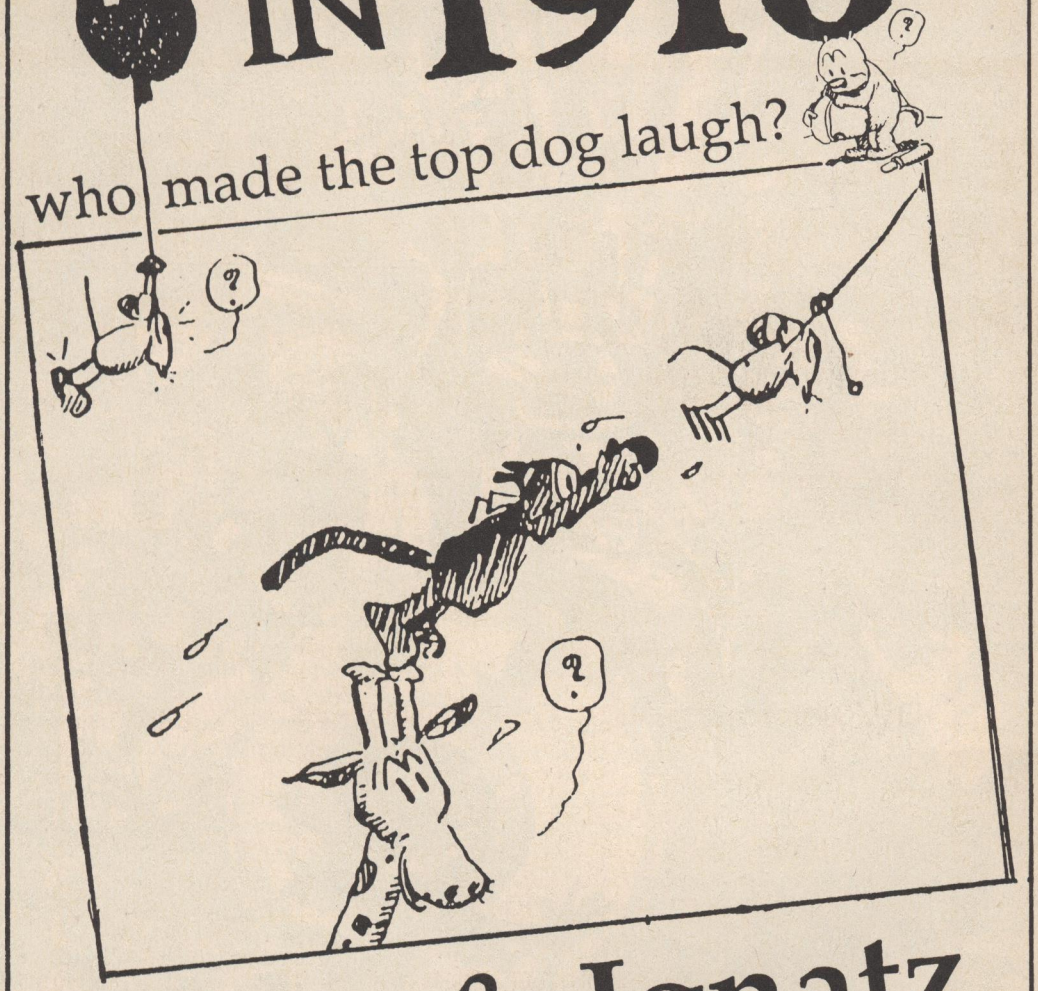

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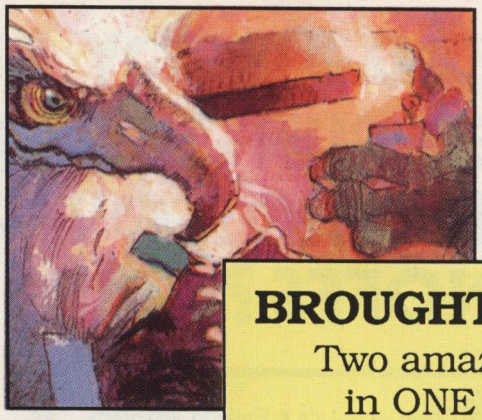

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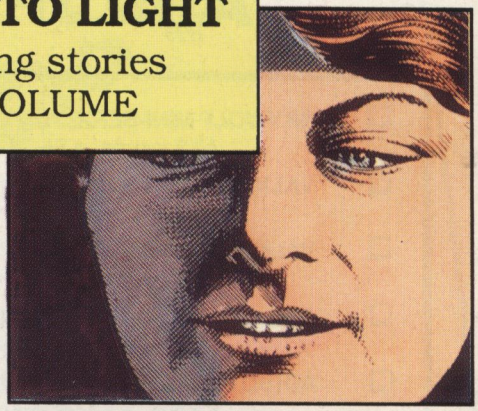

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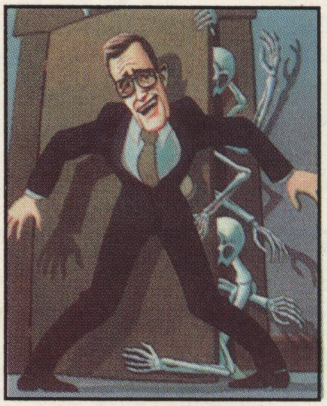

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